

The Times-Dispatch

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One Week. One Year.
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SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1906.

The Rate Bill.

Now that the rate bill, such as it is,
has been passed with only three dissenting
votes in the Senate, the public natu-
rally desires to know whether anything
has really been accomplished. The debate
in the Senate served at least to show
that a number of radical abuses still
exist untouched by the Elkins bill—
indeed, that act was ever intended to
effectively restrain abuses by the rail-
roads. And President Roosevelt's con-
clusive statement to Senator Aldrich con-
firming the power of concentrated
wealth in shaping legislation that touches
its interests.

The plain man, who has heretofore been
only food for plunder, may, therefore,
well doubt whether any far-reaching
means for redress has been granted.
These misgivings cannot be settled until
the bill has been effectively enforced
by the commission.

Awaiting the outcome, however, some
important changes have been made. The
most notable departure is the authority
given the commission to make and put
into effect a maximum rate. Under the
present law, the commission can only
declare that the rate complained of is
unreasonable, without saying what shall
be a reasonable maximum rate. If this
power is sustained as constitutional, the
present conditions should be radically and
lastingly improved.

And not only does this rate-making
power apply to the railroads, but it in-
cludes as well the pipe lines, Pullman
Car and express companies.

The Bailey amendment, limiting injunc-
tions, was utterly done away with, and,
though the injunctions are still per-
mitted, yet the bill restricts the issuance
of preliminary injunctions and interlocu-
tory orders, which may be issued only
on hearing, after five days' notice to
the commission, before at least three
circuit judges.

Provides for appeal from inferior court
direct to United States Supreme Court
within thirty days, with precedence over
all but criminal cases.

The present bill also contains the Elkins
amendment, making it unlawful for in-
terstate carriers to transport articles or
commodities in interstate commerce pro-
hibited by them except when used in their
business as common carriers. This pro-
vision should have an important bearing
on the abuses and discriminations
arising from railroad ownership or in-
terest in coal mines. For example, the
recent disclosures in the investigation of
the Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylv-
ania Railroads in relation to unfavorable
tolling interests.

In addition there are a number of pro-
visions touching the issuance of passes
and bills of lading and the giving of
switches. Of especial significance is the
provision touching the giving of the im-
poundment penalty—a clause that the
Elkins act against granting rebates had
very considerably repealed.

"Court review" was the issue over
which the fiercest struggle was waged.
It will be recalled that the Hepburn bill
only referred to the courts incidentally.
In the clause which empowered the com-
mission after full hearing upon complaint
to determine and prescribe, in its judg-
ment, the "just, reasonable and fairly
remunerative rate" to be charged as the
maximum thereafter. It was provided
that the order should take effect thirty
days after notice to carrier and remain in
force, unless modified by commission or
suspended or set aside by a court of
competent jurisdiction.

The last ten words were held to be a
sufficient recognition of the legal rights
of the carriers by the supporters of the
Hepburn bill. Powerful constitutional
arguments, however, were made against
the sufficiency of this clause, and, as a
result, the bill that passed the Senate
expressly confers jurisdiction upon the
courts to review the commission's orders.
It is contended by some that this is the
broadest possible right of review, and by
others that the courts will only ascertain
whether the order exceeds the authority
of the commission or violates one's con-
stitutional rights. In these contentions
lies the kernel of the whole fight.

When President Roosevelt began this
campaign against the railroads his avowed
object was to give the commission the
absolute and untrammelled power to
make rates subject only to court review
of the constitutional rights of the car-
riers. This position President Roosevelt
gave up, and the carriers can, in the
opinion of their supporters, carry the
whole question, not only of the constitu-
tionality, but of the propriety of the
rates as well, into the courts. If the
courts sustain this contention, it will
practically make the judges, and not the
commissioners, the rate-making power
of the country. In the latter event, the
present bill will inevitably be subject to
further debate and amendment.

Like all far-reaching economic or
constitutional changes, this new bill, born
of so much agitation and debate, is at
present an unknown quantity; but one
thing it has done—it has established the
principle of the people's unalienable
right of regulating the public service
corporations.

Moving Forward.

Richmond is moving—undoubtedly mov-
ing. Echoes of The Times-Dispatch's
campaign for adequately sprinkled streets
are beginning to reverberate in all sorts
of places, and the public demand for re-
lief from the dust nuisance is gaining in-
sistence with each passing day. The
Committee on Charter, Ordinance and Re-
form, has now fallen in behind the move-
ment and given it a substantial push for-
ward.

At its meeting on Friday night, the com-
mittee passed an ordinance requiring
street railway companies henceforward to
sprinkle all streets upon which their
lines are laid. On its part, the city re-
linquishes its present charge of three cents
per 1,000 gallons, which is entirely as it
should be; and requires the Passenger
and Power Company to operate its sprink-
lers every day from the first of April to
the end of December, and upon such days
during January, February and March as
may be designated by the city engineer.

This ordinance is now to go before the
Council backed by the committee's recom-
mendation, and with the strong presump-
tion that it will be passed. It is plain
that it inaugurates an important step
forward in the question of proper street
sprinkling. Possibly at some future
time it may be advisable to require the
traction company to install sprinklers
with a wider reach than the small affairs
now in use, but for the present the case
may well be rested with the requirements
of the proposed ordinance.

As for the question of general street
sprinkling on the part of the city, a letter
printed in another column of to-day's
Times-Dispatch gives some further fig-
ures of interest. The writer's estimates
may be regarded, probably in every case,
as "outside." Thus, he places the cost
of wagons at \$200 each—a price which
could certainly be greatly discounted by
buying in quantity. He allows \$300 as
the price of a mule, and \$50 as the monthly
hire of a driver. He finds that twenty
wagons with full equipment could be in-
stalled for \$17,000, and operated for seven
months of the year at a total cost of \$11-
\$30. Twenty wagons, as The Times-Dis-
patch pointed out yesterday, would cover
a large part of the city every day. Backed
by the daily service of the Virginia
Passenger and Power Company, they
would make Richmond, unquestionably,
an admirably sprinkled city.

The Council is again urged to note
at what a very reasonable expense this
devotion to the desired consummation may
be effected.

Meantime, it is highly gratifying to
note that the movement for cleaner and
healthier streets is already definitely un-
dway.

Who is Responsible, Oppenheimer or Stratton?

Dr. Stratton's confession has made a
profound impression on the News Leader
and the Journal, as well as on The Times-
Dispatch. There is no need to rehearse
the incident. What concerns the people
of Richmond, however, is the light that
it casts on the personnel, management
and general fitness of the Board of
Health. So far The Times-Dispatch has
scrupulously refrained from any harsh
criticism of Dr. W. T. Oppenheimer, pres-
ident of the Board of Health.

It has been necessary to point out the
exceedingly careless and incompetent
spirit which has characterized the man-
agement of that department. But these
conditions unpleasant and distressing as
they were, could not be wholly chargeable
to Dr. Oppenheimer, for he could have
done more had he been given more means.

But there is a vast difference between
Dr. Oppenheimer's failure to get a larger
appropriation and his connivance in and
actual approval of a plot to turn loose
on the community a woman suffering with
diphtheria in a contagious form.

The News Leader is right in saying
that Dr. Oppenheimer had no alternative
but to loyalty and cordially support
Dr. Levy—if he was competent—and if
not, have him removed. Dr. Oppenheimer
did neither.

He laughed at the joke even though
the humor of the situation was not as
he saw it. The public, however, sees more
of culpability than wit in this whole
incident, and the question keeps rising:
Is Dr. Stratton, the city physician, really
as blameless, or half as dangerous as
Dr. Oppenheimer, the president of the
Board of Health?

A Little Question of Good English.

The following is taken from the
editorial columns of the ever-esteemed
Atlanta Journal:

Hon. John Wesley Gaines sprung a fine
cud of quotation on the House of Repre-
sentatives the other day. "Why do we
sit here," he cried, "like a lot of cowards
and raise everybody else's (sic) salary
and not our own?"

A writer uses the parenthetical "sic"
when he quotes another man's errors and
wants to let the public know that he, for
his part, is quite aware of such errors
and wishes his hands of them. In this
case, evidently, The Journal man
desires to have it understood that "some-
body else's" is a combination that he
personally will not stand for.

Yet the phraseology as good as the gold
of Ophir. The old form "somebody's
else" is an obsolete affair, no longer
sanctioned by the best usage. So says,
for example, the late Fitzedward Hall,
the English philologist, and one of the
greatest authorities on the use of English
words that ever lived. The newer and
better form is rarely found before 1810,
but since that time has steadily gained
in favor. Dickens, Thackeray and George
Elliot used it freely.

Plainly "everybody else" has, as the
grammarians put it, a unitary meaning.
It is virtually a single word, and quite
properly forms its possessive case by the
ordinary suffix. With all due respect to
The Journal, "everybody's else salary"
would be a hideous verbal monstrosity
with which no self-respecting writer
should have anything to do. If the Hon.
John Wesley Gaines had been betrayed
into using it, we could never have given
him our unrestrained admiration again.

State Care of Insane.

The Norfolk Landmark concludes that
the investigation at Williamsburg has
already demonstrated that the State hos-

pitals have not sufficiently large staffs,
and as a rule the members are not paid
enough for the quality of work required;
that there should be a separate institu-
tion for epileptic patients and no epilep-
tics should be allowed to enter any other
State hospital; that the State should care
for the insane patients without compensa-
tion.

These several propositions are self-evident.
It is unwise, impracticable and ab-
solutely indefensible for the State to un-
dertake to conduct an institution for the
care of the insane without a sufficient
number of competent officials. Money
saved by such stinting is not economy,
but niggardly parsimony.

For many years past The Times-Dis-
patch has done what it could to assist
Dr. W. F. Drewry in his noble effort
to segregate the epileptics in a separate
and distinct colony. These unfortunate
are not insane. When free from con-
vulsions they are rational and their men-
tal suffering is greater than that of the
persons who have lost their wits. They
deserve our tenderest consideration. They
should not be compelled to associate with
the insane. They should have a home of
their own, where they can pleasantly and
profitably occupy their time and where
they will find among their associates
that fellow feeling which makes us won-
derous kind. It would be, not only hu-
mane, but economical for the State to
establish a separate institution for the
care of epileptics.

When the Legislature was last in ses-
sion The Times-Dispatch joined with the
Culpeper Exponent and other newspapers
in advocating a measure to relieve in-
sane patients of cost of maintenance in
the State hospitals. The investigation at
Williamsburg has demonstrated that the
State has actually been making a profit
on the maintenance of paid patients. The
whole system is wrong in principle and
vicious in practice. Patients who have
property and pay taxes for the support
of the hospitals are certainly as much
entitled as paupers to free treatment and
care.

Good Roads for Amherst.

As already mentioned in our news
columns the board of supervisors of Am-
herst county have gone on record in
favor of issuing \$50,000 of county bonds,
subject to the approval of the voters,
to be used in macadamizing the road
from Lynchburg to Amherst Courthouse
and Elton.

In discussing the proposition the New
Era says that it is claimed that with
State aid when the county spends \$1 it
will get \$3 in work, so that by spend-
ing \$50,000 it will get \$240,000 for road
improvement. It is fifteen miles from
Lynchburg to Elton, and ten miles
from Lynchburg to Elton, making twenty-
five miles of contemplated work. It
is estimated that it will cost something
like 5,000 a mile to macadamize the road,
making a total cost of \$125,000, leaving
\$115,000 for additional work.

According to this estimate Amherst will
get more than forty miles of macadam-
ized roads at a cost to the county of
\$50,000. The assessed values of real es-
tate in the county of Amherst is in the
neighborhood of \$2,000,000. How much
will the land of Amherst be enhanced in
value by the construction of forty miles
of good macadamized road. We should
say at a rough guess that it would be
at least twenty-five per cent., and even-
tually as much as fifty per cent., but
suppose we take the most conservative
view possible, and put the enhancement
at five per cent., Amherst would still be
\$250,000 to the good in actual values to
get nothing of the convenience to the
general public. Is it not a perfectly
plain proposition that road building of
the right sort is a first class invest-
ment for every county?

Decreasing Labor; Increasing Land Values.

The Halifax Gazette thinks it remark-
able that the price of farming lands in
that county should increase in value in
the face of a scarcity of farm labor, but
says that such is the fact.

"Within the last few years," says our
contemporary, "there has been a very
marked advance, not only for farm
lands suitable for the growing of fine
tobacco, but for grazing purposes as well.
Not only are the lands in the county in-
creasing in value, but in the town lots
are in demand and each year shows an
advance over the previous one."

There is nothing remarkable in this
statement. The farmers are doing their
own work with the aid of labor-saving
machinery and are making more net
money than they did when they depend-
ed upon the shiftless labor at their com-
mand. In these days every industry is
valued by its earning capacity and the
more agricultural lands earn the more
valuable they become.

Nor is there anything remarkable in the
enhancement of values of town lots. Ag-
riculture lies at the basis of all wealth,
and when the farmers of Halifax are
prosperous the town will prosper accord-
ingly. The increase in the value of town
lots in Halifax county is a natural and
logical consequence of the enhancement
of farming property.

County Exhibits at Jamestown.

The board of supervisors of Isle of
Wight county are considering the ad-
visability of appropriating \$1500 for a
county exhibit at the Jamestown Ex-
position and final action will be taken by
the board at its next meeting in June.
The board invites all citizens of the
county who feel an interest in the propo-
sition to appear before it at that meet-
ing and express their views pro and con.
If the propertyholders of the county are

wise they will urge the board to make
the appropriation.

There will be many visitors from all
parts of the country to the Jamestown
Exposition and many of them will come
for the purpose of prospecting. Virginia
is becoming more and more popular as
a place of residence and the tide of im-
migration is rapidly turning in this direc-
tion. Those who come to the exposition
will make careful examination of the ex-
hibits made of this county and that, and
will govern themselves accordingly. Every
county which is in the market for set-
tlers ought to make the best exhibit pos-
sible at the Jamestown show.

"The Last Interview."

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)
"When they therefore were come to-
gether they asked of Him, saying, 'Lord,
will Thou at this time restore again the
Kingdom to Israel?' And He said unto
them, 'It is not for you to know the
times, or the seasons which the Father
hath put in His own power. But ye shall
receive power after that the Holy Ghost
is come upon you, and ye shall be witness-
es unto Me, both in Jerusalem, and in all
unto the uttermost parts of the earth-
and when He had spoken these things,
while they beheld, He was taken up; and
a cloud received Him out of their sight.
And while they looked steadfastly to-
ward Him, as He went up, behold two men
stood by them in white apparel, which
also said, 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand
ye gazing up into Heaven? This Jesus
which is taken up from you into Heav-
en, shall so come in like manner as ye
have seen Him go into Heaven.' Then
returned they unto Jerusalem. . . .
and when they were come in, they went
up into an upper room. . . . and all
continued with one accord in prayer and
supplication." Acts 1:6-14.

This is the last glimpse we get of
Christ below. It is the end of His visible
course on earth. These are His last
words and instructions. They concern
not only His disciples gathered there, but
His church in all ages.

Let us consider, then:
I. The question of the disciples. It is
concerning the Kingdom of Israel, which
had for so many years been given to the
Gentiles. Their question was not all car-
nal. They ask about a kingdom that had
been lost; that was to be restored; and by
the Messiah. But the main point of the
question was as to the "time" of all this.
When shall all this be? Shall it be now?
Tell us your plan.

II. He refuses to reply. He does not re-
prove them for their carnal expectations;
nor the error in their prophetic views;
nor yet in their longing for that kingdom.
But He rebukes their eagerness to know
the "time." That was the Father's own
secret, and must be left to Him. We
should desire to study, and know, what
has been revealed concerning Christ's
kingdom, but the time must be always
left to Him.

III. He couples His reproach with a
promise. So like Himself! He can not
revoke, but He must add a word of
love. The Holy Ghost is to come and to
come to them. They are to receive power,
and thenceforth to be His witnesses from
Jerusalem unto the ends of the earth.
Much was to be done and much suf-
fered ere that kingdom was to be restored.
It could not come, unless His disci-
ples labored for it. We have here a
glimpse of the interval—and the unceas-
ing work to be carried on during that time
of waiting.

His reproach ended, and His promise
given, we are told in a few words of a
most marvelous event. "He was taken
up!" Enoch was the first; Elijah next,
and last the Son of God. Who thus as-
cended. Why had not Christ the pre-
eminence in this? We cannot tell, and it
is not for us to ask. He was in reality
the great first, the opener of the gates,
and to His ascension, they owed theirs.
Because He rose, they rose.

A cloud received Him out of their sight.
To form His chariot. For we are told He
"maketh the clouds His chariot and walk-
eth upon the wings of the wind."

This wonderful event took place "while
they beheld," while they were gazing at
Him, so they could not be mistaken. They
saw Him standing with them, on the
ground, and they saw Him rise, and finally
disappear, as they looked stand-
fastly toward heaven.

They could not leave the spot, nor with-
nesses. They were in "white apparel,"
draw their eyes, till the angels spoke.
They were two, for they came as wit-
nesses to what they saw. It was as if the
Lord, when passing upward, out of sight,
saw the longing, moist eyes, of the poor
helpless disciples and dispatched quickly
two of His glorious attendants, with a
message which was both to comfort and
to direct.

The angels use words of recognition,
"Men of Galilee." They speak as if they
knew the disciples, who they were, and
why they were thus wondering. "Why
stand ye gazing up into Heaven?" What
do you mean by this? What is the use
of it? It was not for this, that your
Lord ascended. All the more must ye
carry on His work, now that He is gone."

To comfort them, they gave them the
promise of His return. He is not gone
forever, nor has He forsaken the earth
finally. He is to come again; to come
the very same Jesus, not different, but
in every way the same. He is to come
in the same way He went, and to the
very same spot, too. (Zach. XIV:4.)

The consolation here is, not that you
shall go to Him, but He shall return to
you. Such is the stress which Scripture
lays on Christ's second coming. Not
death, but His return is the consolation
of His people. "Surely," saith He, "I
come quickly."

So, the disciples, comforted in spite of
themselves, withdrew their longing eyes,
and obey the angels' messenger. They
return to Jerusalem, dwelling on the
thought of His return. How that journey
would recall old scenes and His own
words! They go back to the city that had
crucified their Master—not knowing what
they should do, but content to wait till
He should direct them further. Hence-
forth, and forever, there was a link be-
tween them and heaven, such as they
had never known before.

They went at once to the "upper room,"
where they had held the last passover
supper, with their Lord. They found the
other disciples already there. What fel-
lowship would be there now! During
their times of waiting, for they still knew
not what to do, bereft of His personal
guidance.
Prayer is their only resource—so they
pray. They continue with one accord
in prayer and supplication. Thus they



Negligee Shirts.

If you would know true
shirt ease, then wear our
Summer Coat Shirts, made
with or without cuffs.

Out on the green fields
of old mother earth you'll
want one of our comfy and
sweet silk or flannel Neg-
ligee Cutting Shirts.

Some have the collars at-
tached, and some have not.
We also sell separate flannel
collars that are so popu-
lar nowadays with the col-
lege men.

Norman F. Short Co.

EXCLUSIVE
HABERDASHERS AND
HATTERS,
812 East Main St.

await his further commands. Thus they
aid themselves for their work. Thus
they get themselves ready to be filled with
power.

What an example for us! Let us watch
and pray. Gazing up to heaven—even
standing on Olivet—will do nothing for us.
But earnest and continued prayer in the
"upper room" will do everything, and
bring us every blessing.

To find out now that the rate-bill is
unconstitutional would be as painful as
to discover that, after all, those weren't
the bones of Jones.

Don't go around asking people if it's hot
enough for them. In the untended west
men have frequently been slain for less
than that.

The best dressed pedestrians are wear-
ing their dust parted in the middle.

When doctors disagree, consideration
becomes a difficult matter.

John Mitchell is going to become an
honest lawyer.

It seems that a swab in time saves
nine.

A jocund and frolicsome set, the Health
Department.

One swallow should not drain a spring.

Got your rate-bill on straight?

How about beng the loeman now?

Sprinkle, sprinkle, little car.

Take care of your Selph.

It's a past rate-bill.

Dust thou?

Interesting Street Sprinkling Figures.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—Having read with care and interest
your articles on street sprinkling, as one
of the necessary factors to health, I
submit the following estimated statement
of cost of new equipment and operating
expenses for seven months of the year,
and operated by the city authorities. The
calculation is based on ten sprinklers
(two horse) furnishing a basis for the units
and from which the calculations can be
made for as many sprinklers as may
be needed for the purpose of thoroughly
laying the dust.

These figures I believe are full cost as
of this date and in setting the plan in
operation it will probably be found that
the cost will be somewhat reduced.

EQUIPMENT.
10 wagons.....\$3,500
20 mules.....4,000
10 sets harness.....500
Add for extra stable shed if needed.....1,000
Total.....\$9,000
OPERATING EXPENSES PER MONTH
30 mules feed.....\$250
Shoeing.....25
10 drivers.....80
Repairs.....70
Incidentals.....10
Total.....\$435

For seven months.....\$3,150
20 wagons would cost to operate.....\$11,850
For six months 10 wagons.....\$5,925
20 wagons.....10,140
The district to be covered should in-
clude all the main thoroughfares, east
and west, say Cary to Leigh Streets in-
clusive and such other streets in the
vicer portions of the city, east and west
ends, as are thickly settled, involving a
large amount of vehicle traffic. Also all
cross streets north and south to a point
covering the largest wheeling.

E. A. BARBER.

Farm Wagons

On account of special induc-
ement by the manufacturers, we
are enabled to offer the famous

Birdsell Wagon

At special low prices. The BIRD-
SELL is a steel skinned wagon, and
one of the most durable and best
built farm wagons made. Get our
prices and catalogue before pur-
chasing.
New catalogue of all Farm Im-
plements mailed on request.

The Implement Co.,
1902 EAST MAIN STREET,
Richmond, Va.

Views of the Virginia Editors

Slighted Home Talent.

It is to be regretted that the contract
for the all-time service to be rendered to
the battleship Virginia on behalf of the
State, an appropriation for which was
made by the last Legislature, was not
awarded to a Virginia concern. There's
a certain degree of sentiment involved in
the matter which should be played to
large figure in the transaction—and this
fact obviates with peculiar force when it
is considered that the bids of Virginia
establishments were altogether reason-
able, and that these concerns were and
are in position to furnish a silver service
of the same work and been comparatively
small. The resourceful Richmonder
promptly sent back a clipping which con-
tained the statement of Mr. Haverstick,
of Washington, that Norfolk has the
dirtiest streets of any city in the country
in which there is a "second building"
with the exception of Montgomery, Ala.
A Roland for an Oliver, we must con-
fess.—Norfolk Landmark.

A Roland for An Oliver.

The other day a citizen of Norfolk, in
a spirit of fun, sent to a friend in Rich-
mond a clipping showing that the bank
clearings of this city had increased over
70 per cent. over the same week of 1905,
whereas the increase in Richmond for
the same week had been comparatively
small. The resourceful Richmonder
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tained the statement of Mr. Haverstick,
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T-D Attractions.

"The Sunday-edition of The Times-Dis-
patch has greatly increased, both in
quantity and quality. Although the
"pink section" may be a little too
"sporty" for some of us, all this is
more than offset by the interesting and
instructive matter which we readers and
advertisers of this excellent paper find in
the Industrial Section, the Helps to
Farmers, the Educational Page and many
other good features of the paper.—Tide-
water News.

Farmers Becoming Aroused.

Saturday, May 26th, promises to be